

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KATHMA 01485 120612 Z

11

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NIC-01 EUR-25 OMB-01 RSR-01 /118 W  
----- 047516

R 120252 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4908

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 1485

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NP, PFOR, SK, IN, CH, UR

SUBJECT: DISTURBANCES IN SIKKIM: NEPALESE VIEWS, PLUS AN ISOLATED  
CHINESE ONE.

1. SUMMARY. OFFICIAL GON REACTION TO SIKKIM DISTURBANCES HAS PREDICT-  
ABLY BEEN TO SAY NOTHING AT ALL. HOWEVER, DURING RELAXED SOCIAL  
OCCASION APRIL 10, FOUR MIDDLE- RANKING FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS  
EXHIBITED INTENSE INTEREST IN POSITION OF GREAT POWERS AND CHINA ON  
ISSUE, PLUS FEELING OF FRATERNAL SYMPATHY FOR NEPALI MAJORITY IN  
SIKKIM. PRC EMBASSY ECON COUNSELOR INDICATED DURING CONVERSATION  
THAT  
HE FELT ALL NATIONS, LARGE AND SMALL, SHOULD HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS  
AND THAT SIKKIM WAS A NATION IN THIS SENSE. END SUMMARY.

2. THERE IS NO OFFICIAL INDICATION OF GON ATTITUDE TOWARD  
SIKKIM DISTURBANCES THAT WE HAVE NOTICED; INDEED, SEMI- OFFICIAL  
LOCAL PRESS HAS CARRIED STRAIGHT NEWS ACCOUNTS BUT NO EDITORIAL  
REACTION. THIS IS UNDERSTANDABLE AND PREDICTABLE NEPALESE  
REACTION TO SITUATION IN WHICH ANYTHING GON MIGHT SAY WOULD  
BE LIKELY TO OFFEND ONE OR ANOTHER NEIGHBOR.

3. I ATTENDED DINNER PARTY BY FRG FIRST SECRETARY APRIL 10 AND  
FOUND MYSELF WITH FOUR MIDDLE- RANKING NEPALESE DIPLOMATS, ALL  
CURRENTLY WORKING IN FOREIGN MINISTRY, PLUS CHINESE ECONOMIC  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KATHMA 01485 120612 Z

COUNSELOR, HSU LIANG, AND HIS INTERPRETER, AND OTHER DIPLOMATS FROM FRG, BURMESE AND FRENCH EMBASSIES. NEPALESE LAUNCHED ACTIVE AND APPARENTLY WELL- INFORMED DISCUSSION OF CURRENT SITUATION IN SIKKIM. THEY REVIEWED EXISTING TREATY SITUATION AND SPECULATED THAT NEPALI MAJORITY HOPED THROUGH CURRENT AGITATION TO GET GOI TO ELIMINATE CHOGYAL, OR AT LEAST TO ELIMINATE ALL HIS REAL POWER . ULTIMATELY, MY INFORMANTS THOUGHT, NEPALI MAJORITY IN SIKKIM HOPED ALSO TO GET MEASURE OF INDEPENDENCE FROM INDIA-- ALTHOUGH ONE OF THEM ASKED RHETORICALLY, ONCE YOU LET THE GOI IN, HOW DO YOU GET IT OUT? THROUGHOUT ALL THIS DISCUSSION I DETECTED SOME SYMPATHY FOR NEPALESE MAJORITY IN SIKKIM BASED ON FRATERNAL CONSIDERATIONS OF ORIGIN AND LANGUAGE, BUT NOT THE SLIGHTEST INDICATION OF ANY INTEREST IN A SOLUTION TO PROBLEM THAT WOULD INVOLVE MERGER WITH NEPAL. EVEN MORE CONSPICUOUS THAN FRATERNAL SYMPATHY, HOWEVER, WAS APPARENT FASCINATION OF ALL FOUR OF NEPALESE DIPLOMATS WITH POSITIONS GREAT POWERS AND PARTICULARLY CHINA WERE TAKING TOWARD SIKKIMESE SITUATION. THEIR CONCERN APPEARED TO CENTER ON IMPLICATIONS FOR NEPAL AND OTHER SMALL COUNTRIES IN AREA POSED BY INDIAN INVOLVEMENT. THERE WERE FREQUENT, ONLY HALF- JOKING PARALLELS DRAWN TO BANGLADESH.

4. AFTER REPEATED ATTEMPTS TO GET ME TO DEFINE A POSITIVE US INTEREST ( WHICH I DECLINED), IT BECAME THE PRC' S COUNSELOR' S TURN TO STATE HIS COUNTRY' S POSITION. AT FIRST HE SAID HE WOULD NOT COMMENT AS HE HAD NOT HEARD RADIO PEKING ON THE SUBJECT. WHEN PRESSED, HOWEVER, HE SAID ALL COUNTRIES, GREAT AND SMALL, SHOULD HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS. ON FURTHER INQUIRY HE SAID HE THOUGHT SIKKIM WAS A COUNTRY IN THAT SENSE.

5. AFTER CHINESE LEFT THE GROUP, MY REMAINING DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES APPEARED INTRIGUED AT WHAT CHINESE COUNSELOR HAD SAID. BURMESE CHARGE IN PARTICULAR TOLD ME HE BELIEVED COUNSELOR WAS VERY CLOSE TO AMBASSADOR TSAO CHIH AND WOULD NOT HAVE MADE STATEMENT HE DID WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION. I AM NOT SO SURE. HOWEVER, SINCE THERE SEEMS TO BE A DEARTH OF EVIDENCE AT THIS POINT REGARDING CHINESE ATTITUDES, I AM REPORTING FOREGOING AS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST. ( SEE NEW DELHI' S 4127, PARA 2.)

6. THE NEPALESE WERE ALSO ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN SOVIET VIEWS AND REPEATEDLY REFERRED TO INDO- SOVIET TREATY OF 1971, ASSERTING THAT INDIA WOULD NOT " SWALLOW" SIKKIM WITHOUT A " GREEN LIGHT"

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KATHMA 01485 120612 Z

FROM THE SOVIETS.  
COON

CONFIDENTIAL

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973KATHMA01485  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** KATHMANDU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730446/aaaaisko.tel  
**Line Count:** 122  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <27-Aug-2001 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980126  
**Subject:** DISTURBANCES IN SIKKIM: NEPALESE VIEWS, PLUS AN ISOLATED CHINESE ONE.  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CH, IN, NP, SK, UR  
**To:** CALCUTTA  
HONG KONG  
NEA  
NEW DELHI  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

